

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A scanning optical system, comprising:

a laser source for emitting a laser beam;

a scanning deflector that deflects the laser beam;

an imaging optical system that converges the scanning laser beam onto an object surface; and

first and second mirrors that bend the optical path of the scanning laser beam, said first and second mirrors being movable to adjust the optical path length between said deflector and said object surface for changing a width of the scanning range on said object surface.

2. (Original) The scanning optical system according to claim 1, wherein said first and second mirrors move while keeping the position of the scanning line formed on said object surface in an auxiliary scanning direction.

3. (Original) The scanning optical system according to claim 1, wherein the optical path between said deflector and said first mirror intersects the optical path between said second mirror and said object surface.

4. (Original) The scanning optical system according to claim 1, wherein the moving amount of said second mirror is proportional to the moving amount of said first mirror.

5. (Currently Amended) The scanning optical system according to claim 1, wherein said first and second mirrors are supported so as to be unitarily moved ~~as a single piece~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The scanning optical system according to claim 5, wherein said first and second mirrors comprise a unitary member ~~are formed as a single piece~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The scanning optical system according to claim 1, wherein said imaging optical system comprises a plurality of lens elements and said first and second mirrors are arranged positioned between said lens elements.

8. (Currently Amended) The scanning optical system according to claim 7, wherein the lens element positioned between said second mirror and said object surface is moved together with the movement of said second mirror.

9. (New) A scanning optical system, comprising:

a laser source that emits a laser beam;

a scanning deflector that deflects the laser beam;

an imaging optical system that converges the scanning laser beam onto an object surface;

first and second mirrors that bend the optical path of the scanning laser beam; and

a mirror mover that moves said first and second mirrors so as to change a width of the scanning range on the object surface.

10. (New) The scanning optical system according to claim 9, said moving mechanism being configured to move said first and second mirrors proportionally.

11. (New) The scanning optical system according to claim 9, wherein said imaging optical system comprises a plurality of lens elements, said first and second mirrors being positioned between said lens elements.

12. (New) The scanning optical system according to claim 11, said first mirror being movable in a direction substantially parallel to an optical axis of a lens element of said optical system positioned upstream of said first mirror, said second mirror being movable in a direction substantially parallel to an optical axis of a lens element of said optical system positioned downstream of said second mirror.

13. (New) The scanning optical system according to claim 9, wherein said first and second mirrors are movable in different directions.